

THE COLONNADE

The Official Student Newspaper of Georgia College



GC'S BRIGHTEST SHINE IN SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Dr. Dorman celebrates new plaza, pg. 6



Men's tennis aims for Top 10, pg. 11

Dance away the Mondays, pg. 14





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About This Issue...

The News section reveals GC students' opinions on President Trump's immigration ban, the names of GC's four Fulbright semifinalists, a look behind GC landscaping and students' & faculty members' opinions of D2L.

The Sports section recognizes Maurice Smith's 100th win as head coach of the GC women's basketball team. It also features previews for both GC tennis teams and the golf team.

The A&E section features Oscar-themed adult beverages, a glimpse

into swing dance, and comedic musicians Jackie Tohn and Jon Fisher reconnecting in Milly.

Also, be sure to check out the Editorial section.

Join us for pitch at 6:30 p.m. on Mondays in the Colonnade office, located in MSU 128.

**Pictured on the cover: Top left: Kevin Morris, Top Right: Audrey Waits
Bottom Left: Samantha Clapp, Bottom Right: Anna Fontaine**

Cover Photos Courtesy of GC Communications

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**Volume 93
No. 15**

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Students speak out against immigration ban



Hadleigh Wilson / Contributing Photographer



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Amy Strang / Staff Photographer

Candiss Hill, (left) David Standish (center) and Maralyn Quinones (right) said they disagree with the travel ban on immigrants and refugees.

Amy Strang
@gcsunade

President Donald Trump's executive order that severely limits travel and immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries has been met with a mix of public support and public condemnation at GC. The order bans citizens from Iraq, Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen from entering the United States for the next 90 days, and suspends refugee admission for the next 120 days.

Three GC students say they disagree with the ban, some

saying they believe it targets the religion of Islam.

"You can't just ban an entire religion from coming into a country just because of what they believe," said Maralyn Quinones, junior and theater major. "In every religion, you have extremists who feel like they're doing something for the right reason but you can't just generalize from there."

President Trump's order shocked the world and caused chaos at many U.S. airports and border security posts. Many people, including GC students, have criticized Trump for the move they see as undercutting

American values.

"We are supposed to be the land of the free," said Candiss Hill, senior and theater major. "Our country was built on immigration."

Computer science major Daniel Standish, a junior, said he initially thought the ban was in the interest of maintaining national security, but changed his mind after hearing others' perspectives on the issue.

"A full ban is too strict," Standish said. "But I'm for keeping the background checks and security procedures as tough as they were before the ban."

Eric Spears, assistant vice president of international education at GC, said there will be no direct impact on any GC students or faculty members.

"I've heard from some faculty who were very concerned about what impact [the ban] would have on the climate at Georgia College and the broader community," said Veronica Womack, chief diversity officer of the Office of Inclusive Excellence.

Womack said she wants to make sure people understand that GC is an inclusive place.

"We value diversity here," Womack said. "We value people

from varying ethnic and religious backgrounds. When we talk about inclusive excellence, that encompasses everybody, not just specific groups."

The diversity of GC's student population lends itself to diverse reactions, and some students expressed the importance of cultural diversity on campus.

"Cultural diversity is important to higher education," Hill said. "It will teach our children to love and embrace people for who they are, no matter their ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion or social status."

GC students named Fulbright semifinalists

Wellsley
Kesel
@gcsunade

Three current GC students and one GC alum have been selected as semifinalists for the prestigious U.S. Fulbright Scholarship, an award that grants recent graduates and graduate students the ability to travel to different countries to continue their studies and research.

Anna Whiteside, the assistant director of the GC honors program and coordinator of the National Scholarships and Fellowships Office, said that the Fulbright Program is highly competitive, awarding 2,000 scholarships annually.

“This is the greatest number of semifinalists Georgia College has ever had,” Whiteside said. “It’s a huge accomplishment.”

Originally introduced by Congress in 1946, the Fulbright Program is a product of the international turmoil created by World War II. With other countries experiencing immense war debt, the U.S. founded Fulbright to help them get rid of their debt whilst improving international relations.

“Part of the strategy was the idea that if we went to learn alongside these people, we would be less likely to go to war with them again,” Whiteside said.

Having started nearly 71 years ago, the Fulbright Program is still going strong today, with nearly 12,000 applications per year. Although daunting, this statistic did not deter GC’s four semifinalists from stepping up to the challenge.

“Before, the thought of getting a scholarship as prestigious as this one seemed pretty unattainable, but I thought, ‘Why not go for it?’” said Samantha Clapp, senior and math major. “Now it seems like something I could actually get, and that’s pretty cool.”

Clapp, who plans on obtaining a Ph.D. in mathematics, is excited for potential new opportunities winning the Fulbright could present her. Clapp said that studying abroad in Budapest would help her expand her studies and research.

“Hungarians are known for teaching differently, so it’s always cool to have a new perspective on math and thinking,” Clapp said.

Clapp’s fellow semifinalists have set impressive goals as well. Audrey Waits, a master’s student at GC, is pursuing a career in medicine and, if she wins the Fulbright award, will explore how temperature affects pathogenic bacterial populations found in reindeer herds in Finland.

Additionally, GC alum and program semifinalist Anna Fontaine plans to go to London to participate in theater outreach and pursue a master’s degree in acting.

Kevin Morris, a fifth-year senior and economics and history double major, said he intends to utilize what he has experienced at GC to help teach in other countries.

“I plan on bringing the ‘Times Talk’ forum model to the classroom to help students practice their English-speaking skills while engaging in important dialogue on the issues that communities face in Macedonia, including ethno-religious tension, poverty, immigration and political corruption,” Morris said.

Morris is quick to share the credit with those that helped him along the way.

“I feel so indebted to the economics and history departments, and I would be hard-pressed to find a more talented and engaged group of scholars,” Morris said. “These professors and teachers have invested so much into me and my success, and they are the ones deserving of applause.”



Photos courtesy of GC Communications

(From top to bottom) Anna Fontaine, Audrey Waits, Kevin Morris and Samantha Clapp will continue to the next level in their respective Fulbright competitions.

Campus landscaping: A look behind the beauty



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

The Grounds and Landscaping Department's handiwork can be found in planters and flower beds around campus.

Carson
Gregors
@gcsunade

The aesthetic appeal of GC's 160-acre property displays the work of the Grounds and Landscaping Department, as the staff works to maintain the standard of the campus within a fixed budget.

"I think Front Campus is very pretty, with a beautiful scenery," said Hugo Marquez, freshman and computer science major. "It's a very welcoming and warming environment."

This department, organized by

Susan Daniels, assistant director of Grounds Services, employs 20 individuals who maintain GC's landscape. Two of these employees are part-time students who do computer work, Daniels said.

Seeking to create more employment opportunities for students, Daniels petitioned for a grant to create five student-worker positions. Despite being granted the funds and advertising the openings, these funds were lost at the beginning of the fall 2016 semester when no students applied, Daniels said.

This year's budget of \$760,000

has been allocated into two primary divisions, said Daniels. Employee salaries total \$608,000, and the remaining \$152,000 is used to maintain the grounds and equipment. Under special circumstances, Daniels said she is allowed to request additional funding to cover the purchase of certain machineries and tools, such as trucks or lawnmowers when needed.

"They give me enough to work with, but they don't over-give me a bunch because we're state-funded," Daniels said. "Therefore, if you run it nice and tight, you get creative."

One way the department seeks to save money is through composting, Daniels said. In the 23 years that Daniels has worked at GC, the department has composted dead vegetation. The compost site is located on the edge of West Campus, and once the pile is ready, it is mixed with clay or dirt and used as topsoil, Daniels said.

The current landscaping project underway is the area around Underwood House. Daniels estimated the cost to be between \$20,000 and \$26,000, saying the landscaping should be completed within the next month.

This project uses funds from the department's budget. However, the landscaping that will occur when the renovations of the buildings Beeson, McIntosh and Mayfair are completed will derive from funding granted by the Board of Regents, Daniels said.

"I feel that our campus is known for the beautiful grounds," said Jennifer Chamblee, junior and nursing major. "It's the first thing people see, and it's their first impression, so I think it's very important that we have lawn-care [staff] that take care of it."



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

The grounds and landscaping crew's latest project is the area around the newly renovated Underwood House on West Hancock Street.

GC sounds off on D2L

William
Anderson
@gcsunade

GC students and faculty have mixed opinions on D2L, GC's online learning management system and a connected hub for both online and traditional classrooms.

Jeanne Sewell, interim director of GC's Center for Teaching and Learning, said that GC has been using the online learning management system for 20 years. Sewell said the university's reason for selecting D2L, also known as Georgia View, was that the operating system had already been well-tested at the time.

"My experience from using learning management systems over the past 20 years is they are more alike than different, and just like driving a car or cooking, a lot of the success depends upon the user, the user being collectively the teachers and the students," Sewell said.

Sewell said the No. 1 tip he gives to students and faculty to better their experience with D2L is to gain experience simply by using it.

Iris Becomo, junior and criminal justice major, said she enjoys the accessibility D2L offers.

"I like D2L because I can keep track of my grades and I can also see what kind of assignments are coming up, and I also can

look at any other files my teachers post on there," Bencomo said.

Michael Muller, freshman and education major, said he thinks the operating system could be improved in a couple of ways.

"I think the one improvement they can have is better communication with what you need to do," Muller said. "I find a lot of times they leave it very open to what they want."

Amy Echeverria, a theater professor at GC, said she struggled trying to learn and operate the system through her first semester of teaching.

"This is my second semester at Georgia College. My first semester, no one really told me how to do D2L so I didn't really have any guidance on that," Echeverria said. "It could be improved by little mini-sessions, doing a basic 'this is how you log in,' and 'this is how you do this.'"

However, Leslie Stempel, foreign languages professor at GC, said she finds the software helpful with providing students the proper tools to succeed both in and out of the classroom.

"I use it to do anything from announcements for class, to any PowerPoints I go over, to extra credit to any worksheets we go over in class," Stempel said. "That way, for the students that want the extra help or to study or to prepare, it's there."



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

President Steve Dorman held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Feb. 6 to celebrate the completion of the Centennial Center's new plaza.

THIS WEEK AT GC

A calendar of events

IT Career Fair

Wed. Feb. 8 @ 9:00 a.m.
Magnolia Ballroom

Information technology students will be able to network with potential employers hiring for internship and full-time career opportunities. Business attire is required.



Blood Drive

Wed. Feb. 8 @ 11 a.m.
& Thurs. Feb. 9 @ 10 a.m.
Magnolia Ballroom

The Red Cross is holding a blood drive for six hours each day on Wednesday and Thursday.



LinkedIn Meet-up

Thurs. Feb. 9 @ 2 p.m.
Lanier Hall 140

Students will learn how to use LinkedIn to build a network of professional connections and search for jobs. Attendees should come prepared with questions and laptops.



11th Annual Valentine's Day

Rendezvous Concert
Sat. Feb. 11 @ 7:30 p.m.
Magnolia Ballroom

The Max Noah Singers and The Cat's Meow will perform romantic songs from a variety of genres in solo, duet and group performance formats.



All Week Long

Severe Weather Preparedness Week

Each day this week, GC's Public Safety Department is highlighting a topic in severe weather preparedness to educate faculty, staff and students on best safety procedures for various types of severe weather. Find more information on ready.ga.gov.

For more information, visit frontpage.gcsu.edu.



Obtained from Georgia College's Public Safety Department

Double trouble

Date: Jan. 22

Case: Officer Braumuller witnessed a woman fall in front of a GC residence hall. He made contact and helped the woman up. The woman identified herself as a GC student and said she and her sister had both been drinking at a fraternity party they attended that evening. The woman said she is a freshman at GC and that her sister is not a student. Both women were underage. Officer Braumuller escorted them back to the GC student's door. There, Officer Braumuller found several bottles of alcohol, which were then poured down the drain. The case has been referred to Student Judicial.

Lots of drug stuff

Date: Jan. 21

Case: Officer Braumuller found a GC student asleep in the bushes in front of a GC residence hall while on patrol of Greene Street. When Officer Braumuller approached the student, he sat up and began to speak coherently. The student told the officer that he had gotten tired and chose to nap in the bushes before heading into his dorm. The student consented to a breath test and registered a .128 Brac, and the officer gave him a ticket for underage possession of alcohol. When Officer Braumuller escorted the student back to his dorm room, Officer Braumuller saw two glass bottles with materials inside. Officer Braumuller asked if he could see the bottles, and the student agreed and handed them over. The student admitted that the bottles were used to smoke marijuana, and he proceeded to hand over his other drug-related objects. According to the public safety reports, the student turned over "one glass jar containing paper, a bolt and bottle cap, one glass jar stuffed with plastic (both smelled of marijuana), one glass jar containing marijuana stems, a plastic bag containing homemade smoking devices, two plastic bags with very little marijuana in them, a coke bottle with dryer sheets converted into a smoking device, a glass smoking device, a wooden device used to store and smoke marijuana and a grinder containing a little bit of marijuana." Upon a consented room search, Officer Braumuller, joined by Sergeant Smith, also found an orange public works traffic cone. The student admitted to having taken it last semester. The case has been referred to Student Judicial.

Or don't hide the evidence...

Date: Jan. 29

Case: A GC residence hall community advisor (CA) found a bag containing alcohol bottles in the hall outside a dorm room. After getting backup from another CA, she knocked on the dorm. When the resident opened, she stated that though the bag came from her room, the alcohol was not hers and that another resident and his friends had left it in her room the week before. The resident said she only knew the name of one of the friends, who also lived in the dorm, but not the names of his friends. The CAs disposed of the bag, which contained two full bottles of Michelob Ultra and a cardboard six-pack container. After the CA returned to her officer, the male resident came to her office and said the alcohol was his. Both residents were sent to Housing Judicial for liquor law violations.

Burnt Ramen?

Date: Jan. 26

Case: A GC student was sent to Student Judicial and given a citation for underage possession of alcohol after he set off the smoke alarm in his dorm room. Officer Braumuller was dispatched in response to the alarm. When Officer Braumuller met the community advisor (CA) on duty, he was escorted to the room where the alarm sounded. The room was filled with smoke but smelled "like a scented candle and not something burning," said Officer Braumuller in his written report. The CA brought the resident to the dorm room so Officer Braumuller could speak to him. When asked where the smoke came from, the resident said that it was from burning Ramen noodles. The resident did not have a microwave or any other way to cook the noodles in his room. Officer Braumuller saw batteries to a vape on the counter, and the resident admitted to having vaped in the room earlier. The resident also said that he lied about the Ramen noodles. Officer Braumuller asked if there was any alcohol in the room, and the resident gave him several bottles. The student was issued a citation for underage possession of alcohol and was referred to Student Judicial.

Not my can

Date: Jan. 21

Case: A GC student was issued a citation for the underage possession of alcohol and littering when Officer Powell saw him drink from a beer can and throw it on the ground. The student made eye contact with the officer but continued walking when Officer Powell tried to make contact with him. When contact was made, the student was very uncooperative and denied that the beer can was his. He later admitted that he received the beer from a friend and that he was under 20 years of age. The student was given his citation and referred to Student Judicial.

Soundly drunk and should be deaf

Date: Jan. 30

Case: At approximately 3:30 a.m., a community advisor (CA) for a GC residence hall received two calls concerning a noise complaint. The callers stated that someone on their hall was playing music too loudly. The CA located the room where the music was coming from and knocked on the door. When no answer came, she stated that public safety officers were going to be called if the door was not opened. Still, there was no answer. The community director was notified, and the CA retrieved the master key. After announcing her presence, she opened the dorm's door. Inside, the CA found three boxes of beer and several empty cans. The resident of the dorm was lying asleep on his futon, wearing a blue wristband. The resident did not respond when the CA unplugged the speaker and spoke to him. With no response, the CA checked to see if he was breathing, and he was. The CA left the room, and the resident was referred to housing judicial for a liquor law violation.

THE COLONNADE

IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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picked up in Terrell Hall #211**

**All applications are due
to Dr. Mary Jean Land
by 12 p.m., Monday, Feb. 13, in
Terrell Hall #211.**

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**Any current Georgia College student
with a GPA average of a 2.75 or higher
is eligible to apply**

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gcsunade.com*



Lauren
Nielly
@gcsunade

In his seventh season as the GC women's basketball coach, Maurice Smith has reached his 100th career victory as a head coach. A Milledgeville native, coach Smith has been working with the Bobcats since his time as a member of the men's basketball team. Following his time as a player, Smith joined the coaching staff as a student assistant for the men's team, where he transitioned to a graduate assistant position for two more seasons. He was then promoted to assistant coach of the women's team before earning the title of head coach.

During his time as head coach, Smith has led the Bobcats to two 20-win seasons, in the years 2006-07 and 2009-10. The team advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16 during the 2006-07 season, and in 2012-13 the Bobcats won the PBC West Division Championship.

However, Smith credits the athletes he has coached with the success he has earned over the years.

"It is really a tribute to the players," Smith said. "Coaches can bring young people so far, give them some tools and provide opportunity in different situations, but it is the players who have to put it together from game to game and perform."

Smith's on-court success is not the only aspect that defines him as a

respected coach. His leadership helps develop his players just as much off the court as he does on the court.

Mark Gainous, head coach of the Bobcat men's basketball team, has worked with Coach Smith for the past two seasons.

"He has unbelievable character," Gainous said. "He is honest, caring, and you honestly can't find a finer person than Maurice Smith."

Along with earning the respect from fellow coaches, Smith also receives praise from his players. Freshman Kenyatta Storms, although redshirted this season, has still felt the influence of Smith's coaching.

"He preaches that we represent something bigger than ourselves. It's for the school and people in the community," Storms said. "He wants us to go out and be the best we can be but still have great attitudes about it."

Coach Smith has been able to balance athletics with everything else going on in his players' lives. He makes sure his players are equipped for their lives after college, not just for their time on the team.

"The impact on the student-athletes is the bottom line, I just want to have a positive impact on their lives," Smith said. "Basketball is just a small part of it, it's a platform to help shape and develop life skills and character."

MAURICE SMITH reaches 100 wins as head coach

Golf team set to tee off at Florida Southern

Ben
Lord
@gcsunade

Warmer weather is approaching, and the GC men's golf team will be heading into its spring 2017 season next week. After impressive work last fall, the team finished 4th and 3rd in the last two tournaments, respectively, ending their season ranked 24th in the nation.

Harrison Stewart, senior and business management major, has been on the GC golf team since he was a freshman. He said the team has found its rhythm and wants to win some big tournaments this year.

"We looked good last fall, so our plan is to keep it up and play well this spring," Stewart said.

Stewart has acquired a number of achievements throughout his career at GC, such as the "Rookie of The Year" award, "Most Improved Player" award and "Coach's Award." He was also recently added to the Georgia Senior All-Star Team.

This 2017 roster will be returning four seniors, who look forward to making a national impact again this season. Winter gave the golfers a chance to enhance their skills, but conditions can be harsh and golfing weather can be difficult to come by in the offseason.

"The biggest challenge after the offseason is overcoming the short game," Stewart said. "There isn't a whole lot of time to practice that technique in the winter."

Leading the golf team is head coach Patrick Garrett, who played golf at GC for four years. He then graduated and became an assistant coach to longtime head coach Jimmy Wilson. After shadowing Wilson for a few years, Garrett was promoted to head coach in September of 2015.

Coach Garrett has applied different strategies to the Bobcats' golf game and encouraged them to practice continuously in the offseason.

"It's going to be a great spring. I told the guys to take advantage of this winter's warm weather and practice themselves," Garrett said. "Putting in time in the offseason



Courtesy of GC Athletics

Harrison Stewart focuses on his form as he taps the ball towards the hole.

goes a long way when tournaments roll around."

On Monday, Feb. 13, the GC golf team will head to their first tournament of the season, the Matlock Invitational, in Lakeland, Florida, hosted by Florida Southern.

Women's tennis begins season with 9-0 shutout

Maddy
Stone
@gcsunade

The GC women's tennis team shut out Brenau University 9-0 on Friday, Feb. 3, at home to secure its first win of the season.

"I always enjoy watching the GC women's tennis team play," said Caroline Ham, senior and education major. "They are all full of energy and play very well as a team."

The women spent the fall conditioning and working to improve, not only as a team but as individuals as well.

"Tennis is an individual sport," said head tennis coach Steve Barsby. "If all the girls are playing at their best, the whole team usually does well."

Typically, there are around 23 matches in an NCAA postseason. Last season, the



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

Head tennis coach Steve Barsby talks to his team before the match against Brenau University on Feb. 3.

team made it to the conference tournament and regionals, then made it to the final match before nationals. Their goal for this year is to be one of the Top 20 teams in the country.

"Yes, making it to regionals is a goal, but it is more of an expectation," Barsby said. "So far we look good, so I believe

that we will get there again this season."

There are a few seniors on the team, so this is the last season that some of the women will play at the collegiate level. Most of the girls have been playing together for three to four years, so this team has built a strong bond.

"I am excited to see what we can do

this season," said Macy Polk, senior and chemistry major. "The past four years flew by, I am going to miss being a part of this team."

The team added one new player in January, freshman Camilla Negrini from Milan, Italy. With that addition, the team has six players total, meaning that each athlete must play in every match of the season.

"They all perform well from year to year, so I am expecting great results," Barsby said.

The players spent months training and conditioning in preparation for their spring season. They are prepared for the season, mentally and physically, for reaching their goal of being Top 20 in the country.

Their next match is against Valdosta State University at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 12 at home.

Men's tennis aims for Top 10 in the country



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

Vincent Castermans (left) and Pedro Ecenarro (right) prepare to return a serve while practicing for their first meet, which was last week against Morehouse.

Dallas
Fletcher
@gcsunade

The GC men's tennis team has started 2017 with high expectations and goals for the upcoming season. Historically, the team has always been a Top 15 nationally-ranked team.

"Our expectations are always pretty high," said Steve Barsby, head tennis coach. "Our goal is always to be Top 10 in the country and right now we're 11th in the preseason rankings."

The team is scheduled to play five of the Top 10 nationally-ranked teams over the course of the semester. However,

the players welcome the competition to challenge and improve their game as they hope to improve their results in the Peach Belt Conference and make it to nationals.

"We are a really talented team, so it's basically up to us," said Anton Waern, senior and business management major. "If we're mentally prepared, I think we can do really well, but at the same time there's a lot of good teams out there, so it's not going to be easy."

In the fall, the players focused on improving as a team and staying healthy. Barsby said the fall is more of a feel-out to see what needs to be improved going into the spring season.

Mattia Campus, senior and management major, had to sit out during the fall because

of an injury but still plans to come back full force this spring.

"I had to work my way up to get into the shape I wanted to be in for this upcoming spring," Campus said. "The guys worked very well on the court and off the court and in the gym as well, so hopefully we'll work hard towards where we want to be in the season coming up."

Campus and his teammates will lean on their experience this upcoming season, with only one freshman on the roster compared to seven upperclassmen.

"Most teams that we go up against, we know who they have and how the atmosphere is going to be, so it makes a huge deal when it comes to our experience," Campus said.

Another senior on the team, Kyle Kinsler, believes that the team's strong bond and collegiate experience will help contribute to its success throughout the season.

"The experience on-court and being able to perform well in high stress situations, when you have a little bit of experience it's a lot easier," said Kinsler, senior and management information systems major.

The team took the court Saturday, Jan. 4, starting its 2017 season by closing out Morehouse College with a 9-0 win. The team won its doubles matches 3-0 and its singles matches 4-0. The team takes on its next competitor, Valdosta State University, at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 12, at home.

UP NEXT...

SATURDAY, FEB. 11

**Women's
Basketball**
vs. Young
Harris
1:30 p.m.

**Men's
Basketball**
vs. Young
Harris
1:30 p.m.

Baseball
at Tampa
6 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 12

Baseball
at Tampa
1 p.m.

Women's Tennis
at North Georgia
1:30 p.m.

Men's Tennis
at North Georgia
3:30 p.m.

WGUR is Now Accepting
Applications for

General Manager



Application packets can be picked up in Terrell Room 211

All applications must be submitted to Dr. Mary Jean Land in
Terrell 211 by Monday, Feb. 13 at 12 p.m.

Any Georgia College Student interested in applying must
have and maintain an average GPA of at least 2.75

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A bushel of bad apples

John
Daugherty,
Junior

Last week, students at the University of California Berkeley protested Milo Yiannopoulos, a gay conservative and editor at Breitbart News. He was scheduled to give a speech on campus. But unruly people (probably paid protestors) bent on destruction denied him the opportunity to exercise that right. They burned a very large generator, as well as American flags. They threw fireworks at police officers and broke windows at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Union building. They also damaged buildings off campus, including a Starbucks. Why would anybody on the left want to damage a Starbucks (a very liberal company)? Milo's speech about free speech had to be cancelled.

Apparently, the only way these people can respond to viewpoints with which they disagree is by forcing them to shut up. These violent protesters (deplorables, in my book) make all the peaceful protesters look bad. Nobody has a right to destroy property. The first amendment protects "the

right of the people peaceably to assemble." Peaceful is the last word I'd use to describe their protest. It is amazing to me that no one was arrested. If I busted the windows at the library, I assure you I would be punished. Apparently, if I did it in a mob to protest someone on the right, I could get away with it. If the left wants their protests to have credibility, they need to denounce these hoodlums. A bad apple spoils the whole bunch.

Todd Starnes put it as only he can when he wrote, "Ironically, it was liberals who silenced a gay immigrant and vandalized a building named after a Civil Rights legend. Who knew there were so many homophobic, racist xenophobes at Berkeley?"

Who are these deplorables? I saw an article in The Macon Telegraph Saturday discussing the subject. It said that "with far-right groups edging into the mainstream with the rise of President Donald Trump, self-described 'anti-fascists' and anarchists are vowing to confront them at every turn, and by any means necessary – including

violence." This is not a sustainable course of action. Disagreeing with the government or a citizen's course of action doesn't give one the right to turn to violence. There are peaceful means for law abiding citizens to make their voice heard and influence change.

What if Republicans had resorted to these tactics during President Obama's tenure? As Walter Williams, an 80-year-old, black, conservative columnist, put it "Republicans and conservatives are held – and hold themselves – to higher standards of behavior. By contrast, Democrats and liberals are held – and hold themselves – to less civilized standards of behavior." Republicans responded to President Obama through the ballot box with the Tea Party movement in 2010. Not burning, breaking, and beating people up. I would advise that Democrats channel their energy likewise. In the meantime, if these hoodlums would move up to Canada like some of the celebrities said they would before the election, they could truly help Make America Great.

The lasting importance of the arts

Mary Kate
Conner,
A&E Editor

A little while ago, a small flock of students gathered in the basement of Blackbird for a night of arts and entertainment. The event was MUSE (read last week's Colonnade for more info). The energy in the audience was electric as we fed off the passion of those on stage. Because when you see someone's skill in action - whether you like it or not, whether it is a resounding gong or the sweetest melody - it is something amazing, elemental. Singers, eyes closed, bobbed their heads up and down to the rhythm in their fingers and on their guitar strings. Poets looked into the audience with flinty stares and hard words and furrowed brows. Comedians leaned against the microphone stand and cocked their heads, asking questions of the world with glinting humor.

Watching those people on stage was food for my soul and fuel for my own expression. So here we are. Me writing to you about the gift, responsibility and power of creating art.

In her speech at the most recent Golden Globes, Meryl Streep said that it is the duty and responsibility of the actor (and, by extension, the artist) to "enter the lives of people

who are different from us and let [the audience] feel what that feels like."

This great act of empathy that she speaks of is the privilege of creating art. Whether it is writing or singing or painting or acting, you sit in a moment in your life or someone else's and you dig around in it until you figure out why it was important. The act of creating art can be deliciously self-centered, but if it means discovering significance of a moment or an emotion, then it is well worth it. Art has the power to connect people because it allows us to revel in our sameness and our shared experiences. And, at the same time, we all have different paths – there is so much we have to learn from each other, and we do that through sharing art.

Another great artist of our time, Amy Poehler, goddess among women, said, "It's very hard to have ideas. It's very hard to put yourself out there, it's very hard to be vulnerable, but those people who do that are the dreamers, the thinkers and the creators. They are the magic people of the world."

Poehler is right. Art and ideas are superpowers. And here's the greatest bit - you can be magic people, too. You

can create, no matter your medium, no matter how complex or difficult, no matter how seemingly insignificant.

Just create art, and those you give it to will probably be better for it, even if it feels like no one will understand or you're just doing it for yourself, even if it's ugly or crass or loud or confusing. Because sometimes, very occasionally, your art will speak to one person in the audience, or maybe a thousand people, and it can build a bridge from pain or injustice to healing and change. And therein lies the magic, therein lies the privilege, therein lies the responsibility and the lasting importance of creating art.

WE'RE LISTENING:

The Colonnade is seeking editorials, letters to the editors, creative writing pieces, cartoons and any other shouts of opinion that you may want heard. Please send to thegcsucolonnade@gmail.com.

Swing into Mondays

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When athletes aren't shooting hoops with the noise of screeching tennis shoes in the background, you can find members of the Swing Dance Club doing aerials and showing off their glitzy dance moves at 8 p.m. on Mondays at the Centennial Center.

The Swing Dance Club has existed for a couple of years now. Club officers have been following their predecessors' lead, running the club the way it's been run in previous years.

"We have copied a lot of stuff we did based on previous instructor's establishments," said co-president Brianna Benz, senior and business management major. "It's changed a lot since last year."

However, this year, the club officers have decided to collaborate with other outside organizations. At last Monday's meeting, the club brought in swing teachers from Athens, Georgia, which is something it has never done before.

"It was nice to see because they taught us a different style of swing," said co-president Brendan Starr, graduate student and history major. "It was more slow-paced than how we usually teach."

Benz said the club is hoping to do more social events like this to get a better grasp of the variety of swing-dancing. Seeing and visiting other swing clubs at other

schools, Benz wants to improve the way the club teaches this jazzy style of dance.

"The way we teach swing is different from how the professional world teaches, which I didn't realize until this year," Benz said. "We would do faster footwork and only taught one way of 'right leg back step' footwork."

Known for their fancy flips and spins, club officers have noticed that these elaborate moves sometimes take away from what swing dance is all about.

"We teach a lot of flips and aerials that most places don't focus on because it's dangerous," Benz said. "Sometimes it becomes too lift-focused and we forget we are actually dancing. We are trying to improve on that."

However, this doesn't mean the flips and dips aren't favorites among members of the club.

"I love doing the scorpion dip," said Angela Nave, junior and Spanish major. "It's an elaborate floor spin routine where your partner eventually pops you up in the air."

Most of those fun flips and lifts require a partner.

"What I like about swing is that it's really fun to dance with a partner because it's more social," Benz said.

The experienced swing dancers recommend that those wanting to try swing should come with an open mind and a friend with whom you feel comfortable dancing.

"I am just as clumsy on and off the dance floor, but I can guarantee no one cares how good you are," Nave said.



(Above) Emily Bullington and Brian Bowman practice swing dance moves in Centennial.

"We like seeing people try new things."

Most of all, the club is about having fun.

"Swing dance is all about the social aspect, it's like a conversation without words and having fun with each other," Benz said. "At the club, it's like an outlet after classes to try fun things." Ada Montgomery/Senior Photographer

Singers Jon Fisher and Jackie Tohn reunite in Milly

Kristen
Pack
@gcsunade

The Campus Activity Board, CAB, had their first performance event with Jackie Tohn and Jon Fisher at the Depot on Feb. 1. Before the duo went on, GC students Wilson Taylor, junior, and Heath McFadden, junior, performed acoustic instrumentals to start off the night. The two students brought a big crowd of supporters to the show, who were then wowed by the performance from Jackie and Jon.

Tohn and Fisher's performance consisted of musical comedy. Tohn and Fisher have been together for 3 years now, and Jon said they have been friends for years. The two travel the country performing separately, but were reunited for their first show ever together last week.

"When we pick acts, we pick specifically for what we think students would like," said Tarryn Winik, junior and CAB president. "Jackie and Jon were the perfect mix of comedy and music that students could relate to."

Tohn was first to start off the night. Fisher is a musician, comedian, actress and singer-songwriter. Tohn was also finished in the top 24 on season 8 of American Idol. She also has made appearances on "It's Always Sunny

in Philadelphia," "Rules of Engagement" and "The Sopranos," among many others.

Tohn played some hilarious songs she's written, including "Deep Like," which was about her going 117 weeks back into a guy's Instagram and liking his picture. She also sang a hysterical acoustic version of "Baby Got Back" that had junior Ryan Price crying laughing. She continued her set list with songs she wrote, infusing her comedic flare. In between each song, Tohn would have stand-up comedy prepared that had everyone laughing.

"I had done music and comedy separately, and I finally thought to put the two together a couple of years ago," said Tohn. "I always had funny song ideas, and now I have the capability to show my two talents together during a show."

But, Tohn said that she still really loves to just sing. She took a serious moment during her act and performed "Sing," a song she wrote about her love of singing and songwriting. It was a good change of pace and showed Tohn's serious side.

Fisher served as more of a comedic relief than a singer-songwriter. He performed stand-up comedy about his time as a server in a restaurant, and also about his roommate

Brian and all the interactions they had together during college.

"[Jon] was great," said junior Ryan Price. "Couldn't stop laughing the whole time, plus he gave me free toilet paper and hotel coffee packets for no reason during his show."



Ashley Cooper/Staff Photographer

Jon Fisher performs music and comedy at The Depot.

DRINKING WITH THE STARS

Downtown bartenders craft Oscar-themed drinks (for 21+ readers only)

Kellie
Murphy
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Whether you are celebrating and watching from the red carpet or visiting one of Milledgeville's local restaurants, Milly's bartenders have created celebratory drinks inspired by famous actors and actresses nominated for Oscars.

Taylor McClendon of Gringos created a drink inspired by the spunky redhead, Emma Stone.

"Tequila, sprite, strawberry. Strawberry because of her red hair and a mixture of tequila and sprite that makes you want to dance like 'La La Land'," McClendon said.

McClendon calls the tequila concoction, "(Emma) Stone Cold." Glasses full of Stone Cold will be clinking if Stone takes home Best Actress for her new movie "La La Land."

Austin Tillman, bartender at The Brick, one of Milledgeville's most famous restaurants, made a drink in honor of Leonardo DiCaprio.

"Bourbon on the rocks for Leo," Tillman said. "It is a sweet and classic drink just like Leo."

After six nominations, DiCaprio won his first Oscar last year for the movie "The Revenant," and will return in 2017 as a presenter, where he can sip on bourbon backstage.

Kwame Harleston, working downstairs at Chops

Underground, chose Denzel Washington as the inspiration for his drink. He calls this drink "The Denzel." It is a sweet mix of Bailey's Irish Crème, Kahlua coffee liqueur, brown crème and cinnamon schnapps.

"Denzel is smooth just like this drink," said Harleston. "The drink is sweet and strong just like Denzel is in his movies."

Washington is nominated for Best Actor for his work in the movie "Fences," which is also nominated for Best Picture. This is Washington's eighth Oscar nomination.

Last but not least, Patrick Bartlett working at the Velvet Elvis chose the one and only Bill Murray for his drink. Its name is "The Murrricane."

"We don't ever really make this at Velvet, but it's a cool drink," said Bartlett. "Basil leaves, fresh watermelon, Bulliet bourbon, lemon juice, St. Germain liqueur, and then garnish it with black pepper and a slice of watermelon. And that's the Murrricane."

With a funny and bubbly personality, this drink will make you feel just like Murray.

Milledgeville's local bartenders have made celebrating Oscar wins easier with style and spunk with these drinks. Whether you're enjoying these drinks downtown or while watching the show from home, your Oscars viewing party just got a little more festive.



Kellie Murphy/Staff Photographer

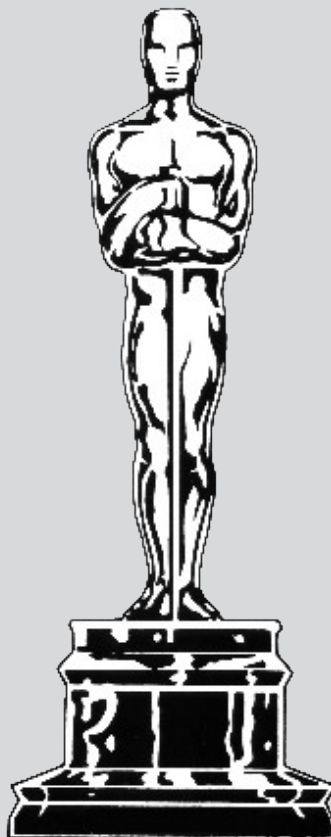
Kwame Harleston crafts "The Denzel" at Chops Underground.

Tonights Cocktails

(Emma) Stone Cold
Tequila, Sprite, strawberry.

The Denzel

*Bailey's Irish Creme, Kahlua,
brown creme, cinnamon
schnapps.*



Simply Leo

*Bourbon on the rocks.
That's it.*

The Murrricane

*Basil leaves, watermelon,
Bulliet bourbon, lemon
juice, St. Germain liqueur.*



Q: If you were Lady Gaga, what would you have worn to the Super Bowl?

Compiled by Monica Klinkmueller



“Metallic leather leggings with a sequin tank, tucked in, and black platform sneakers.”

- Morgan Crowley, sophomore and psychology major



“A pink Juicy Couture sweat suit with Adidas sneakers.”
- Zoë Sherlock, freshman and business major



“A pant suit with combat boots.”
- Sean Regan, junior and psychology major



“One of those big cushioned suits that cops wear when training dogs to bite criminals.”
- Andrew Robinson, sophomore and political science major